

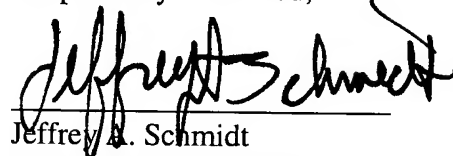
Preliminary Amendment  
Con. of Appln No. 09/996,593

Atty Dkt No. Q76955

**REMARKS**

Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey A. Schmidt", written over a horizontal line.

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: August 20, 2003